



Career Services

"Your journey to career success begins here..."

Gwynedd-Mercy College • Campbell Hall • Ext. 230 • careerservices@gmc.edu

VOLUNTEERISM

Are you interesting in helping others? Making the world, country, state, community a better place? Gwynedd-Mercy College offers many opportunities for everyone to get involved in community service. Volunteering comes with many benefits, a few include being able to:

Help Others

Volunteering gives you an opportunity to make a difference to people's lives in your community. You can use your skills and experience to help and enrich the local community.

Gain Experience

Volunteering gives you a chance to get experience in a field you would like to work in.

Learn/Develop Skills

Many of the volunteer projects will include training, which will be useful both on the project and future jobs. Volunteering provides you opportunities to develop communication and people skills, organizational and time management skills, planning and budgeting skills (all skills employers look for!)

Experience Diversity

Meet new people on campus and in the community. Learn to interact with those who are different from you.

Clarify Career Interests

Volunteering gives you the opportunity to test out potential career choices and "test out" possibilities before committing to a full-time position in that field.

Improve Job Prospects

Volunteering can enhance your future employment prospects and enable employers to see that you have developed the necessary skills you may need in their organization. Volunteer work is valuable EXPERIENCE for your resume!

Network

Volunteering allows you to make connections with people in the community, and those in career fields of interest to you.

Have Fun!

Volunteering is fun and fulfilling, allowing you to experience many diverse opportunities.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

GMC's Campus Ministry and Mercy Works Program provide volunteer opportunities for students to get involved in their communities and live out the Mercy Tradition. Here some programs to consider:

Habitat for Humanity

Mercy Works sponsors several Saturday workdays each year for Gwynedd-Mercy College students to get involved with the Montgomery County chapter of Habitat for Humanity. Groups depart from Visitation at 8 am and return around 4 pm.

Lamb Foundation

Students visit the Lamb Foundation in North Wales weekly to socialize and play games with residents with mild mental impairments. Transportation is available. To learn more about the Lamb Foundation, visit www.thelambfoundation.org.

Manna on Main Street, Lansdale PA

Manna on Main is a local organization that serves poor and hungry residents in the area. Mercy Works volunteers are needed monthly to prepare meals at Visitation House and to serve them at Manna.

Mercy Mentors

Students from Gwynedd-Mercy College spend time with children and adolescents residing at St. Mary's Villa for Children and Families in Ambler. Training is provided in the September, but new members are always welcome. GMC students are asked to commit to this program for the entire school year in order to provide stable relationships for the children.

Mercy 4 Justice

Students and interested faculty/staff focus on a variety of justice issues, from Darfur to fair trade, environmental awareness and human trafficking.

GMC Holiday Outreach

Students collect food and gifts for Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays for families who otherwise would not be able to celebrate the season.

Disaster Relief

When tragedy strikes at home or abroad, Mercy Works coordinates GMC's disaster relief efforts.

ALTERNATIVE BREAK TRIPS

During the 2009-2010 academic year, Mercy Works sponsored Alternative Break trips during Winter and Spring Breaks. These service-immersion experiences are part of GMC's commitment to the Mercy tradition of service to society. Students, faculty and staff who participate in these trips have a desire to serve others, to learn more about poverty and social justice, to grow in their Mercy identity and spirituality, and to reflect on their experiences together as a community. 2009-2010 trips include:

- Alternative Winter Break: Various Locations in Philadelphia
- Alternative Spring Break: Baltimore, MD
- Alternative Spring Break: Laredo, TX
- Alternative Spring Break: New Orleans, LA
- Alternative Spring Break: New York, NY

For more information about any of these programs, or about getting involved in Campus Ministry, contact:

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VOLUNTEER RESOURCES

College Central
www.collegecentral.com/gmc

Infolink PA
www.infolinkpa.org

GMC Campus Ministry and/or Mercy Works Program
www.gmc.edu/students/campusministry/mercyworks.php

Volunteer match
www.volunteermatch.org

Idealist
www.idealists.org